

Something similar happened at the disused railway station at Fittleworth when I came to retire here in 1970. I had left the net in the car and had walked 300 yards along what used to be the railway track. In some bushes were some *Aphantopus hyperanthus* flying. The sun went in and they settled on the foliage of the bushes. One appeared to be a female var. *lanceolata*, but I had not brought the net. Marking the place at right angles to the track with two long dry grass stalks, I hared back to the car, collected the net and returned to the stalks. No *hyperanthus* visible. I couldn't be sure of the exact leaf on which it had settled, so swept the most likely spot; it was not there. But the movement had disturbed it: there being no sunshine it flew lackadaisically and was easily captured a yard or so away.

The final hazard to record is one of confused jottings in a notebook. A record has been kept of each entomological expedition since 1924. The west coast of Eire was visited in 1952, 1959 and again with Mr. R. M. Craske in 1977, in search of the single-brooded *Lycaena icarus* which used to occur there in reasonable numbers: now it is much less frequently seen, extensive farming having destroyed great areas of its foodplant. At the first visit I had walked a good mile across soft sand—every foot sank in 2 or 3 inches, an exhausting task—to a distant promontory. Halfway there—it had taken 25 minutes—I decided to look at a hollow in nearer hills, which proved to be a prolific spot. Amongst those flying all around me appeared a gynandro, but further search revealed no trace, so it was judged to be just optical wishfulness! In the log book was recorded “in the near-far distance there were more than seen anywhere before”. The “near-far” meant not the mile and a quarter of soft sand to the promontory, but the sheltered hollow halfway there where foodplant and flowers were in abundance. This hopeful spot was searched for in 1959 and 1977 with eagerness and energy: each time the long trek, the grind through yard-high marram grass with no result save tired feet and baffled mind. And all because of a random and inaccurate jotting. Mr. Craske finally found the actual place; there were only two *icarus*; the ubiquitous cattle had munched off the *Lotus corniculatus*!

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ACLERIS LITERANA (L.) IN BRECONSHIRE. — I took a specimen of this species out of my Robinson trap on 3rd April, 1978. It is one of the forms from the group 2 of Bradley, Tremewan and Smith *British Tortricoid Moths*, which are squarrose. It is perhaps referable to f. *mixtana* Sheldon, but the dark markings are reduced as compared with the illustration. On the same night a specimen from group 1 was taken in the Rothamsted trap at Llysdinam, Newbridge-on-Wye. These two specimens constitute the first records for VC 42. — A. G. PARKER, Pont-ar-dulas, Llanafan Fawr, Builth Wells, Powys.